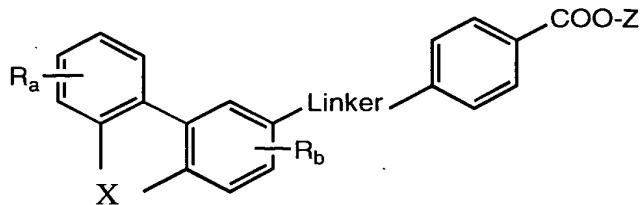


## 5 We Claim:

1. A compound represented by formula I



10

I

or a nontoxic pharmaceutically acceptable salt, physiologically hydrolyzable ester or solvate thereof, wherein

15  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, amino, substituted amino, mercapto, polyfluoroalkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio, formyl, carboxyl, aryl or heteroaryl;

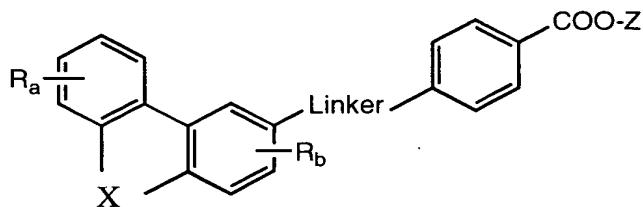
Linker is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkynyl,  $--C(=O)-NH--$ ,  $--NH-C(=O)--$ ,  $--CH_2O--$ ,  $--O-C(=O)--$ ,  $--C(=S)--NH--$ ,  $--C(=O)-O--$ ,  $--C(=O)-S--$ ,  $--S-C(=O)--$ ,  $--S-CH_2--$ ,  $--CH_2-NH--$ ,  $--C(=O)-CH_2--$ ,  $--NH-C(=S)--$ ,  $--CH_2S--$ ,  $--OCH_2--$ ,  $--NHCH_2--$ ;

20 X is O, S,  $-C(R_1)_2$ , C=O,  $-C(R_1)_2Y--$  or  $--YC(R_1)_2--$ , wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of O, S and C(R<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are, independently, hydrogen or methyl; and

25 Z is hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl.

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## 2. A compound represented by formula I



or a nontoxic pharmaceutically acceptable salt, physiologically hydrolyzable ester or solvate thereof, wherein

10  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, amino, mercapto,  $CF_3$ ,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, halosubstituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, hydroxy-substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl, aminosubstituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy,  $C_{1-6}$  alkylthio, formyl, carboxyl, mono- or di- $C_{1-6}$  alkyl-substituted amino, aryl or heteroaryl;

Linker is selected from the group consisting of  $--CH=CH--$ ,  $--C\equiv C--$ ,

15  $--C(=O)-NH--$ ,  $--NH-C(=O)--$ ,  $--CH_2O--$ ,  $--O-C(=O)--$ ,  $--C(=S)-NH--$ ,  $--C(=O)-O--$ ,  $--C(=O)-S--$ ,  $--S-C(=O)--$ ,  $--S-CH_2--$ ,  $--CH_2-CH_2--$ ,  $--CH_2-NH--$ ,  $--C(=O)-CH_2--$ ,  $--NH-C(=S)--$ ,  $--CH_2S--$ ,  $--OCH_2--$ ,  $--NHCH_2$  or  $--CR_c=CR_d--$ , wherein  $R_c$  and  $R_d$  are independently hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl;

20  $X$  is  $O$ ,  $S$ ,  $-C(R_1)_2$ ,  $C=O$ ,  $-C(R_1)_2Y--$  or  $--YC(R_1)_2--$ , wherein  $Y$  is selected from the group consisting of  $O$ ,  $S$  and  $C(R_2)_2$ , and  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are, independently, hydrogen or methyl ; and

$Z$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl.

3. The compound of claim 2 wherein  $X$  is  $-C(R_1)_2Y--$  or  $--YC(R_1)_2--$ , 25 wherein  $Y$  is selected from the group consisting of  $O$ ,  $S$  and  $C(R_2)_2$  and  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are, independently, hydrogen or methyl.

4. The compound of claim 2 wherein  $X$  is selected from the group consisting of  $O$ ,  $S$ ,  $C(R_1)_2$ , and  $C=O$ , wherein  $R_1$  is hydrogen or methyl.

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5. The compound of claim 3 wherein Linker is  $-CH=CH-$  or  $--C\equiv C--$ .

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6. The compound of claim 3, wherein Z is H; R<sub>a</sub> is hydroxy; R<sub>b</sub> is hydrogen; Linker is --CH=CH--; and X is --CH<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-.  
10

7. The compound of claim 3 wherein Z is H, R<sub>a</sub> is methoxy, R<sub>b</sub> is hydrogen; Linker is (--CH=CH--); and X is --CH<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-.  
15

8. The compound of claim 3 wherein X = --CH<sub>2</sub>S--.  
16

9. The compound of claim 3 wherein X = --S-CH<sub>2</sub>--.  
17

10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.  
20

11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.  
25

12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 3 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.  
30

13. A method of treating a tumor in a mammalian host comprising administering to said host a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 3.  
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14. The method of claim 13 wherein said tumor is breast cancer.  
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15. The method of claim 13 wherein said tumor is cervical cancer.  
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16. The method of claim 13 wherein said tumor is a second primary tumor in squamous-cell carcinoma.  
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5           17.    A method for the minimization or prevention of a post-surgical  
adhesion formation between organ surfaces comprising administering to an animal  
host an effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 for a period of time sufficient to  
permit tissue repair.

10          18.    A method of treating inflammatory or rheumatic diseases which  
comprises administering to a mammalian host in need of such treatment an effective  
amount of a compound of Claim 1.

15          19.    A method of treating nonmalignant proliferative skin diseases which  
comprises administering to a mammalian host in need of such treatment an effective  
amount of a compound of Claim 1.

20          20.    A method of treating dermatoses comprising administering to a  
mammalian host in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of  
claim 2.